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DCI/ICS 82-3919

8 SEP 1982

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director of Central Intelligence

FROM:

[REDACTED]
Director, Intelligence Community Staff

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VIA:

John N. McMahon
Deputy Director of Central Intelligence

SUBJECT:

All-Source Assessment Process [REDACTED]

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1. I would like to inform you of an on-going initiative by the Intelligence Community Staff designed to focus collection capabilities where they are most needed. In March 1982, the Office of Assessment and Evaluation, in conjunction with the collection discipline offices, initiated an experiment in all-source assessment designed to determine the extent to which intelligence information needs have been satisfied by recent collection and reporting. This process builds directly upon the Human Resource Committee's practice (through FOCUS and HUMINT assessment seminars) of a evaluation using joint collector/producer/user meetings. [REDACTED]

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2. The process began with a review of existing collection requirements and a listing of information needs. These needs were linked with national priorities and individual collection discipline priorities, as well as with a review of reporting. An interagency seminar of analysts, users, and collection managers was convened, chaired by the responsible National Intelligence Officer, to address the totality of intelligence collection reporting against information needs. Based on the seminar, a report of findings and recommendations was prepared for consideration by the collection discipline offices. A report of the actions actually taken by these offices in response is included. [REDACTED]

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3. The all-source assessment process is intended to complement existing organizational arrangements for influencing intelligence collection and reporting. A primary objective is to strengthen the informal organization by providing an opportunity for analysts and policy officials to express their needs directly to their counterparts in the various collection disciplines and to explain how collection changes can improve the quality of intelligence analysis and support. The second major objective is to elicit analyst/user judgments about the roles which the collection disciplines are expected to play in providing needed information. The IC Staff collection offices,

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through their respective committees, act on the recommendations to adjust collection/processing and priorities in the broader context of all intelligence requirements. []

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4. The first all-source assessment seminar was held 26 May 1982 on [] a copy of the final report is attached for your review. The second seminar, on [] is scheduled for 8 September. The third all-source assessment subject has not yet been selected. Our intent during the first three seminars is to determine the limits of usefulness of the seminar approach in conducting all-source assessments and to refine the approach. []

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5. Our feedback from the participants in the [] seminar has been encouraging and has led to some adjustments in our procedure. My staff plans to update you upon the completion of the third trial study. I would be happy to discuss the process with you in more detail. []

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Attachment:

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